

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (currently amended): A refrigerator, comprising:

a body provided with storage compartments;

a door hingedly coupled to the body; and

a door-handle assembly mounted to a front of the door;

~~wherein opening the door allows access to the storage compartments,~~

~~wherein closing the door prevents access to the storage compartments,~~

wherein the door-handle assembly comprises:

a door handle; and

a supporting bracket installed in the front of the door;

wherein the door handle comprises:

a bracket-accommodating portion; and

a first coupling portion adjacent to the bracket-accommodating portion;

wherein the supporting bracket comprises a second coupling portion,

wherein the ~~already installed~~ supporting bracket is accommodated in the bracket-accommodating portion, ~~and~~

wherein the second coupling portion is then locked to the first coupling portion by sliding the door handle; and

wherein the door has a plane, and the first coupling portion is locked to the second coupling portion by sliding the first coupling portion in a direction parallel to the plane.

2. (previously presented): The refrigerator according to claim 1, wherein the supporting bracket is formed with supporters at opposite ends thereof, and

wherein the door handle is formed with a sliding guide to support the supporters while sliding.

3. (original): The refrigerator according to claim 1, wherein the first coupling portion and the second coupling portion are hook-locked to each other.

4. (previously presented): The refrigerator according to claim 3, wherein the door handle further comprises:

a front cover; and

a rear cover detachably coupled with the front cover;

wherein the rear cover comprises the bracket-accommodating portion, the first coupling portion, and a sliding guide.

5. (previously presented): The refrigerator according to claim 4, further comprising:

a reinforcing cover detachably connected onto the rear cover;

wherein the reinforcing cover is formed with a separation hole at a position corresponding to the first coupling portion of the rear cover.

6. (original): The refrigerator according to claim 2, wherein the first coupling portion and the second coupling portion are hook-locked to each other.

7. (previously presented): The refrigerator according to claim 6, wherein the door handle further comprises:

a front cover; and

a rear cover detachably coupled with the front cover;

wherein the rear cover comprises the bracket-accommodating portion, the first coupling portion, and the sliding guide.

8. (previously presented): The refrigerator according to claim 7, further comprising:

a reinforcing cover detachably connected onto the rear cover;

wherein the reinforcing cover is formed with a separation hole at a position corresponding to the first coupling portion of the rear cover.

9. (new): A door handle assembly, comprising:

a door handle; and

a supporting bracket which is installed in the front of a door;

wherein the door handle comprises

a bracket-accommodating portion which accommodates the supporting bracket;

and

a first coupling portion adjacent to the bracket-accommodating portion;
wherein the supporting bracket comprises a second coupling portion;
wherein the second coupling portion is locked to the first coupling portion by sliding the door handle; and
wherein the door has a plane, and the first coupling portion is locked to the second coupling portion by sliding the first coupling portion in a direction parallel to the plane.

10. (new): The door handle assembly according to claim 9, wherein the supporting bracket is formed with supporters at opposite ends thereof, and

wherein the door handle is formed with a sliding guide to support the supporters while sliding.

11. (new): The door handle according to claim 9, wherein the first coupling portion and the second coupling portion are hook-locked to each other.

12. (new): The door handle according to claim 11, wherein the door handle further comprises:

a front cover; and

a rear cover detachably coupled with the front cover;

wherein the rear cover comprises the bracket-accommodating portion, the first coupling portion, and a sliding guide.

13. (new): The door handle according to claim 12, further comprising:
a reinforcing cover detachably connected onto the rear cover;
wherein the reinforcing cover is formed with a separation hole at a position
corresponding to the first coupling portion of the rear cover.

14. (new): The door handle according to claim 10, wherein the first coupling portion and
the second coupling portion are hook-locked to each other.

15. (new): The door handle according to claim 14, wherein the door handle further
comprises:

a front cover; and
a rear cover detachably coupled with the front cover;
wherein the rear cover comprises the bracket-accommodating portion, the first coupling
portion, and the sliding guide.

16. (new): The door handle according to claim 15, further comprising:
a reinforcing cover detachably connected onto the rear cover;
wherein the reinforcing cover is formed with a separation hole at a position
corresponding to the first coupling portion of the rear cover.